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Transactions on account of yellow fever at Laredo, Tex.—Stegomyia prevalent in New Laredo—Incomplete sanitary work.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Richardson reports as follows:

LAREDO, TEX., May 19, 1904.

I am informed by persons living in New Laredo that *Stegomyia* are very prevalent in that city, and though I have not myself seen any adult mosquitoes there, I have found larvæ in every water barrel in that city into which I have had opportunity to look. Yesterday, in company with Doctor Spohn, I found in the outskirts of New Laredo a flower garden in which were four water containers, each one swarming with larvæ.

It is my observation that whatever sanitary work that is done in New Laredo is confined to the section around the United States consulate and the main plaza, and it is certain that the order allowing only 1 barrel to each premises is not enforced.

There is an almost constant breeze from New Laredo across the Rio Grande to this city, and I am strongly of the opinion that there is a constant, if very limited, influx of *Stegomyia* brought about by this wind.

MAY 24, 1904.

RICHARDSON, *Laredo, Tex.*:

Have you called the attention of the mayor of Laredo, Mexico, to the incomplete sanitary work mentioned your letter 19th? Bureau has referred copy to Liceaga.

WYMAN.

Extermination of mosquitoes at Laredo almost complete.

LAREDO, TEX., May 24, 1904.

Passed Assistant-Surgeon Richardson transmits the following clipping from the Laredo Daily Times, issue of May 23, 1904:

DEARTH OF MOSQUITOES.

Their almost total absence from the city a subject of remark.

"The almost total absence of mosquitoes in any portion of the city is a subject of remark among the citizens. Laredo never before saw a time when it was so clear of the stinging, disease-carrying pest as now. This time last year mosquitoes swarmed all over the city. It was absolutely necessary to sleep under a bar if one obtained any rest. Now the citizens say they do not think of using a bar.

"The Marine-Hospital Service has done the business. The health department of the National Government has spent thousands of dollars, and it has had scores of men employed for nearly a year in the work of destroying the mosquito pest. It is a herculean job to destroy the mosquitoes of a city, and especially a city that is situated in an everlasting summer climate and with every facility to promote the breeding of the pest.

"That the Marine-Hospital Service has done its work faithfully and effectively the almost total absence of mosquitoes attest. Laredo owes an everlasting debt to these faithful officials who have labored unceasingly to bring about this state of affairs. They have added

much to our comfort and rendered the peculiar diseases propagated by mosquitoes an impossibility.

"But in this matter unceasing vigilance is the price of safety. The Marine-Hospital Service is as energetic in killing mosquitoes now as it was when death-dealing pestilence was abroad in Laredo. It is as necessary to cooperate with them—labor with them—as it was months ago. The city is now safe from disease. Let every citizen use his utmost endeavors to keep it safe by continuing to work with that band of faithful workers—the Marine-Hospital Service."

Inspection of Benavides, Piedras Pintas, and Corpus Christi, Tex.

Acting Assistant Surgeon McGregor reports to Passed Assistant Surgeon Richardson as follows:

BENAVIDES, TEX., *May 21, 1904.*

There are no cases of fever [at Benavides] at the present time. Mosquitoes and larvæ are plentiful. Measles has been prevalent here for several months.

Last year, in November and December, "dengue" prevailed in epidemic form, with 3 deaths. One Mexican, Vasquez by name, was sick three days; got up from his bed and ate a hearty meal; died a few hours afterwards. Two others died under similar circumstances, who people here believe were suffering from yellow fever. There were probably other cases.

Piedras Pintas is reported free from sickness.

BENAVIDES, TEX., *May 23, 1904.*

I visited Corpus Christi Sunday, meeting the physicians and many of the citizens. All are pleased that the Service has undertaken the destruction of the mosquitoes and promise me their hearty cooperation in the work. I told them I would go there Thursday or Friday and address them in mass meeting on the subject. They will organize to assist in every way.

I shall leave for San Diego in the morning, after inspecting 146 houses in this place, and of which number it is desired to fumigate about 40.

Inspection of San Diego, Tex.

SAN DIEGO, TEX., *May 25, 1904.*

I arrived here yesterday and established camp.

San Diego is a town of 2,200 inhabitants, situated on the San Diego Creek. The water supply is from deep wells and cisterns. Mosquitoes are plentiful and the sanitary conditions bad, owing to the many puddles and mudholes that remain in the streets after rains.

Last night I addressed a large audience in the court-house. I spoke upon the necessity of cleaning up, filling and oiling all mud and water holes, and systematic war upon the mosquitoes and larvæ, which are so abundant. The leading citizens and ladies of the place were present and all showed a deep interest in the matter, promising to go to work at once. I will see the county commissioners to-day and urge them to adopt more thorough measures throughout the county.

My work would be very much facilitated if I had a stereopticon